

Attorney Docket Number: 6891.US.P2
Filing Date: 9/12/2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Presently Amended) [The device of claim 3, wherein the stiffening member is] A medical device suitable for delivering an agent to a subcutaneous location in a patient body, the medical device comprising:

a handle having a proximal end and a distal end;

an elongate member extending from the distal end of the handle;

a sliding member within the elongate member, the sliding member defining a first lumen;

and

a biasing member, comprising a flexible tube, wherein the flexible tube comprises a wall defining an agent delivery lumen and wherein the flexible tube further includes a stiffening member formed of a pre-bent wire, operatively associated with the sliding member to provide a biasing force on the sliding member, the biasing member defining a second lumen in fluid communication with the first lumen.

5. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [3]4, wherein the stiffening member is a wire disposed within the wall of the flexible tube.

6. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [1]4, further comprising an inlet port at the proximal end of the handle, the inlet port being in fluid communication with the first lumen and the second lumen.

7. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein the sliding member defines an outlet port in fluid communication with the first lumen.

8. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [1]4, wherein the biasing member urges the sliding member in a distal direction.

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9. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [1]4, wherein the sliding member is a suture retainer and wherein the elongate member includes an opening suitable to accept a suture when the suture retainer is retracted proximally.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9, further comprising a cutting member slidable within the elongate member to cut a suture retained by the suture retainer.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Presently Amended) [The device of claim 12, wherein the flexible tube comprises] A medical device comprising:

a handle having a proximal end and a distal end;

an elongate member extending from the distal end of the handle;

a suture retainer slidably disposed within the elongate member, the suture retainer defining a first lumen; and

a biasing member comprised of a flexible tube having a wall defining an agent delivery lumen and wherein the flexible tube further includes a stiffening member, operatively associated with the suture retainer to provide a biasing force on the suture retainer, the biasing member defining a second lumen in fluid communication with the first lumen.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein the stiffening member is a pre-bent wire.

15. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein the stiffening member is a wire disposed within the wall of the flexible tube.

16. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [11]13, further comprising an inlet port at the proximal end of the handle, the inlet port being in fluid communication with the first lumen and the second lumen.

17. (Original) The device of claim 16, wherein the suture retainer defines an outlet port in fluid communication with the first lumen.

18. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [11]13, wherein the biasing member urges the suture retainer in a distal direction.

19. (Presently Amended) The device of claim [11]13, wherein the elongate member includes an opening suitable to accept a suture when the suture retainer is retracted proximally.

20. (Original) The device of claim 19, further comprising a cutting member slidable within the

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elongate member to cut a suture retained by the suture retainer.

21. (Original) A method comprising:

providing a medical device comprising a handle having a proximal end and a distal end;
an elongate member extending from the distal end of the handle, the elongate member defining an opening for accepting a suture; a suture retainer slidably disposed within the elongate member, the suture retainer defining a first lumen;

a biasing member operatively associated with the suture retainer to provide a biasing force on the suture retainer, the biasing member defining a second lumen in fluid communication with the first lumen; and

an inlet port on the proximal end of the handle, the inlet port being in fluid communication with the first lumen and the second lumen; connecting an agent carrying vessel to the inlet port; and moving an agent from the agent carrying vessel through the inlet port and further through the first lumen and the second lumen.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

retracting the suture retainer proximally;

placing a suture within an opening on the elongate member; and

releasing the suture retainer such that the biasing member urges the suture retainer distally.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising: providing a cutting member slidable within the elongate member; and sliding the cutting member to cut the suture.

24. (New) A medical device suitable for delivering an agent to a subcutaneous location in a patient body, the medical device comprising:

a handle having a proximal end and a distal end;

an elongate member extending from the distal end of the handle;

an agent cartridge configured to be received within a portion of the handle, the agent cartridge in fluid communication with a lumen of the elongated member;

a sliding member within the elongate member, the sliding member defining a first lumen; and

a biasing member operatively associated with the sliding member to provide a biasing force on the sliding member, the biasing member defining a second lumen in fluid communication with the first lumen.

25. (New) The device according to claim 24, wherein the elongated tubular member further includes a plurality of agent delivery holes disposed along the length of the shaft.

26. (New) The device according to claim 24, further including a beneficial agent disposed within the cartridge, the agent chosen from the group consisting of anti-infective agents or coagulants.